

Application No.: 09/827,614
Amendment dated: June 16, 2004
Reply to Office Action of: January 14, 2004

REMARKS

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated January 14, 2004.

The claims now pending in the case are 29-52, all of which have been effectively amended by amendments to the independent claims 29 and 41. The amendments are cosmetic in relation to the comments set forth below.

The basic rejection (Office Action, paragraph 3) was based on a combination of the references "*Entenmann et al.*," "*Troy et al.*," and "*Hester*." The claims here are distinct from these references because the references define distinct structures and functions.

Entenmann discloses the use of ANI (col. 2, line 55) to verify eligibility (col. 2, line 57). Also, a credit card number is an indicated possibility for checking eligibility, as well as reflecting charges and winnings (col. 2, line 63). Essentially, Entenmann basically teaches the use of ANI or a credit card number to check for the eligibility of a caller to participate in a lottery.

Somewhat similarly, the Troy patent, also involves data entry for purposes of identification (col. 10, line 42). Specifically, Troy mentions use of a "*social security number*" (col. 10, line 53); a "*Visa number*" (col. 10, line 55); or "*other such number*" (col. 10, line 55).

In summary, both the references, Troy and Entenmann simply involve identification. On the contrary, Applicant's claims are specific to testing a caller's calling telephone number and social security number "*against previously stored....data.*"

The structure (claim 29) and process (claim 41) that are claimed are explicitly distinct from the systems described in both Troy and Entenmann.

Whereas Hester sets forth the use of DNIS to support "*many different services*" (Hester, page 3); in the combinations as recited by the present claims, distinct elements are defined.

Application No.: 09/827,614
Amendment dated: June 16, 2004
Reply to Office Action of: January 14, 2004

In view of the present form of the claims, and the above comments urged, the Examiner's reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Dated: June 14, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

Reena Kuyper

Registration No. 33,830

9220 Sunset Blvd., Suite 303
Los Angeles, CA 90069
(310) 247-2860